

Seattle Police Department

Investigation Summary Report

Case Type: Preliminary Investigation Report

Case Number: 11-PIR-0250

Incident Date: 01/27/2011

Date Reported: 06/02/2011

Origin: Phone

Report Number:

Location:

Address:

Precinct:

Sector:

Beat:

Census Tr.:

Status: Intake

Date Closed:

Complainant(s)

Anonymous

Race: Unknown Sex:

Employee(s)


Supervisor:

ID#:  Badge:

Race: Hispanic/Latino Sex: M
Assignment: 100

Allegation: PIR Issue 15 / Workplace Issues

Violation: Standards & Duties

Finding:

Tracking:

Group: IIS Sergeants
Assign Date: 6/2/2011

Assigned To: Verhoff, Jason L
Due Date:

Role: Intake
Completion Date: 6/10/2011

Group: IIS Captain/Lieutenant
Assign Date: 6/10/2011

Assigned To: Kuehn, Mark Edward
Due Date:

Role: Reviewer
Completion Date: 6/10/2011

Group: PIR Distribution
Assign Date: 6/10/2011

Assigned To: Other *CHIEF OF POLICE*
Due Date:

Role: Reviewer
Completion Date:

Narrative:

Preliminary Investigation Report – Commander Review

LIEUTENANT'S REVIEW:

ISSUE: An anonymous male complainant contacted OPA by phone to allege the

named employee used profanity on two separate occasions during official department-related meetings.

ANALYSIS: The anonymous caller failed to provide OPA-IS with sufficient information to put the alleged use of profanity in context. However, a member of the OPA-IS unit was in attendance at one of the department meetings and recalled that profane words were used by members of the command staff to illustrate the circumstances under which such language would be unacceptable if used during an officer's interaction with a citizen. Profanity used for such demonstration purposes in-house would not amount to misconduct.

UNIT COMMANDER'S FOLLOW-UP: Information only.



SEATTLE
POLICE
DEPARTMENT

INVESTIGATION SECTION
Office of Professional Accountability
INTAKE FORM

OPA-IS INVESTIGATOR: A/Sgt. Verhoff #6387		DATE: 6/10/2011	OPA-IS File No. 11-0250
E N T R Y	COMMENCE EACH ENTRY WITH A NUMBER AND THE DATE AND TIME		

- 1 6-2-11 / 1515 hrs: I received a phone call from a man who requested that he remain anonymous. He provided no identifying information about himself, and my phone's caller ID screen displayed no phone number. The complainant alleged [REDACTED] used profanity on two separate occasions during official department-related meetings.

The complainant reported he was present during a mandatory meeting between [REDACTED] and SPD sergeants, which took place on 1-27-11 at 1600 hours. He provided no information as to the location of said meeting, but estimated there were 40-50 people present. When asked if all the attendees were sworn SPD sergeants he declined to elaborate. The complainant alleged that he heard [REDACTED] say the word "fuck" 2-3 times, and the word "asshole" once during the meeting. He claimed [REDACTED] used such language as he addressed the meeting's attendees. When asked about the context in which [REDACTED] allegedly used the profane words, he said the word "asshole" was used as the [REDACTED] referenced an unknown person. The complainant did not recall the context in which [REDACTED] used the word "fuck." He was unwilling to provide any additional details about the meeting.

The complainant went on to allege [REDACTED] addressed a group of unknown people during a "Patrol Advisor Board" meeting, which took place on 5-5-11 at 0800 hours. The complainant claimed not to have been present, but said he received this information from an anonymous witness who was. He alleged [REDACTED] said the word "asshole" twice as he addressed the meeting's attendees, but did not recall the context in which the word was used. The complainant provided no additional information and was quick to end our conversation.

- 2 6-3-11 / 1538 hrs: I sent e-mail to [REDACTED] Senior Executive Assistant, Alyssa Pulliam, requesting information about the May 5th meeting described by the complainant.
- 3 6-6-11 / 0900 hrs: I received e-mail from Chief Metz, which included all available information about the meeting held on 5-5-11. I added the e-mail to the case file.
- 4 6-9-11 / 1625 hrs: I spoke on the phone with [REDACTED] Senior Executive Assistant, Alyssa Pulliam, in order to verify the existence of the meeting the complainant said he attended on 1-27-11. Alyssa said she e-mail me the details tomorrow.

Approved by:

Lt.

Date:

6-10-11

Capt.

Date:



SEATTLE
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FOLLOW-UP CONTINUATION FORM

CASE IIS #:

11-0250

IIS INVESTIGATOR:

A/Sgt. Verhoff

#6387

- 5 6-10-11 / 0900 hrs: I received e-mail from Alyssa with the details I requested. According to her e-mail, a mandatory meeting entitled "2011 Priorities" between [REDACTED] Assistant Chief Sanford, and dozens of SPD sergeants was held in the Traffic Section's roll call room on 1-27-11 from 1600-1800 hours.
- 6 6-10-11 / 1000 hrs: I had a conversation with a sworn OPA staff member who attended the aforementioned January 27th meeting. He recalls profanity having been used during the meeting, but does not specifically recall which of the chiefs in attendance used the words. According to his recollection, the profane words were used in an effort to illustrate circumstances under which such use would be unacceptable during an officer's interaction with citizens.
- 7 6-10-11 / 1315 hrs: Case submitted to Lt. Kuehn.

Approved by:

Lt.

Date:

6-10-11

Capt.

Date:

Verhoff, Jason

From: IS-OPA1, Investigator 1
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 3:38 PM
To: Pulliam, Alyssa
Subject: Information Request

Hi Alyssa,

I'm seeking information pertinent to a current OPA investigation. I'm looking for information related to a possible meeting led or attended by [REDACTED] on 5-5-11 beginning at approximately 0800 hours. Particularly, I'd like to know the exact name, location, and duration of the meeting, and identifying information of those in attendance. Thank you for your assistance, and please feel free to contact me by phone if you'd like.

Jason

A/Sgt. Jason Verhoff
Seattle Police Department
Office of Professional Accountability
Investigations Section
Phone: 206-684-8795
Fax: 206-233-7907

Verhoff, Jason

From: Kuehn, Mark
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2011 4:22 PM
To: Verhoff, Jason
Subject: Anonymous Intake

Jason,

Please process the complaint from the anonymous caller, i.e., enter it into AIM, and, if possible, do some intake investigation. Check with Alyssa Pulliam to determine what meeting the [REDACTED] attended on that date in May, e.g., determine the exact name/location of the meeting, others who may have been in attendance, etc. Similarly, if you can get any information from sergeants that attended the all sergeant meeting concerning the context of what was said, add that to the case. As with any other intake, I'm just trying to have enough information upon which to base a classification decision. Thanks

Mark

Verhoff, Jason

From: Metz, Nicholas
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 6:03 PM
To: Verhoff, Jason
Subject: FW: Information Request

Jason,

Unfortunately I did not write everyone's name down who was able to attend, so I will give you my best from memory

Me

[REDACTED]
Dionne Bartlett
Wayne Johnson
Mark Mullens
Clayton Powell
Laury Pendergrass
Tom Umporowicz
Karla Cockbain
William Collins
David Toner
Kevin Stuckey
Gene Schubeck
Jeff Mitchell

Keep in mind, I may have threw a name in there that may not have been there.

Meeting took place on 5/5/2011 at 0800 hours, Park 90/5, Training Section Room (closest to exterior door)

From: Pulliam, Alyssa
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 4:32 PM
To: Metz, Nicholas
Cc: Yamaguchi-Wong, Sue
Subject: FW: Information Request

Please see request for information below. This is a meeting that you had set up for [REDACTED] to attend. Thank you.
Alyssa

From: IS-OPA1, Investigator 1
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 3:38 PM
To: Pulliam, Alyssa
Subject: Information Request

Hi Alyssa,

I'm seeking information pertinent to a current OPA investigation. I'm looking for information related to a possible meeting led or attended by [REDACTED] on 5-5-11 beginning at approximately 0800 hours. Particularly, I'd like to know

the exact name, location, and duration of the meeting, and identifying information of those in attendance. Thank you for your assistance, and please feel free to contact me by phone if you'd like.

Jason

A/Sgt. Jason Verhoff
Seattle Police Department
Office of Professional Accountability
Investigations Section
Phone: 206-684-8795
Fax: 206-233-7907

Verhoff, Jason

Subject: FW: 2011 Priorities
Location: Traffic Roll Call Room, Park 90/5
Start: Thu 1/27/2011 4:00 PM
End: Thu 1/27/2011 6:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative
Recurrence: (none)
Meeting Status: Not yet responded
Organizer: Sanford, Michael

This is a mandatory meeting. The first hour will be a meet with [REDACTED] then A/Chief Sanford.